

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 12, 14 and 16-26 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, and 14 are independent.

Allowable Subject Matter

The examiner has indicated that claims 7 and 8 are objected to as being dependent upon a base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. We have amended independent claim 1 to include the features recited in dependent claim 7 (now cancelled). The applicant has amended claims 7 and 8 so that they are in independent form and includes the limitations of claim 1 and any intervening claims. We have also addressed the Examiner's objection to the use of the word "pivoting" in claim 1 as pointed out by the examiner. Claim 1 now recites the word "pivot" to maintain consistent terminology. Because claims 2-6, 8 and 9 depend from claim 1, we submit that these dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons that independent claim 1 is patentable.

The examiner has already indicated that independent claims 10 and 14 and their dependents, claims 11 and 13 and 16-26, respectively, are allowable.

35 U.S.C § 103 Rejections

The examiner has rejected claims 1, 2 and 6 under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoeg et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,371,909) in view of Thompson (U.S. Pat. 6,007,484). He has likewise rejected claims 3-5 further in view of Examiner's Official Notice and claim 9 further in view of Wilk et al. (WO 93.15648). These rejections are moot in view of the our having amended independent claim 1.

The fact that the applicant has addressed certain positions of the examiner does not mean that the applicants concede other stated positions of the examiner. The fact that the applicant has

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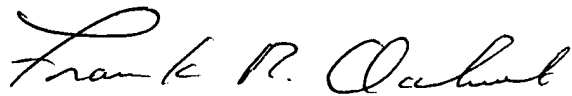
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made arguments for patentability of claims does not mean that the applicant concedes that there are not other good reasons for patentability of those claims or other claims.

Enclosed is a Petition for One Month Extension of Time along with a check for \$110.00 for the required fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, reference 00167-428001.

Respectfully submitted,

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